

# MANZANAR Free Press

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## Block Consolidation Begins August 15

### Ten Blocks Scheduled For Closing By September 12

With center closing less than 120 days away, Project Director Ralph P. Merritt disclosed the schedule of center reorganization and block consolidation in an announcement addressed to the people of Manzanar. Block Managers had met with the Project Director, and learned of the plans of the Administration prior to distribution of the announcement.

"Labor shortage, seriously affecting mess halls and maintenance of services, forces the Administration to require residents of the selected blocks to seek housing elsewhere," stated the Project Director. "This move, long anticipated, has been held up until conditions over which the Administration had no control have reached a point where it is necessary for us to issue the order consolidating the camp."

As blocks are vacated the buildings and their equipment will be turned over to Property Control, and the Supply Officer will immediately begin the removal of stoves and fixtures, the Project Director stated. Work will begin on the removal of all barracks in at least on block immediately as there is urgent need of the salvaged lumber for crating.

Following is the text of the announcement distributed this morning.

TO THE RESIDENTS OF MANZANAR: Mr. Myer has set the closing date for Manzanar as Dec. 1, 1945. Many families have already left the center and have established themselves on the outside. In the immediate future, many more are expected to go for the opening of schools in early September.

Our Center is facing a serious labor shortage due to relocation, which makes it imperative that the blocks be organized in order to adequately maintain and service the residents remaining in the center. The administration sincerely regrets that such reorganization will cause some hardships and inconvenience to families concerned in this announcement. Your assistance and cooperation is important and necessary to insure an orderly and effective movement of people from one part of the center to another. As project Director, I feel assured that I can depend upon your whole-hearted cooperation in this matter.

Therefore in order to meet this situation the following instructions, plan, and schedule for closing the blocks is herewith announced.

#### BLOCK CLOSING SCHEDULE

Blocks 35 and 36 will move Aug. 15, 16, 17. Blocks 30 and 25 on Aug. 20, 21, 22. Blocks 31 and 26 on Aug. 27, 28, 29. Blocks 32

and 27 on Sept. 3, 4, 5. Blocks 33 and 28 on Sept. 10, 11, 12.

All residents of blocks listed above will get assignments to new living quarters from Mr. Kobayashi in Housing on the following schedule:

Blocks 35 and 36 on Aug. 8, 9, 10. Blocks 30 and 25 on Aug. 13, 14, 15. Blocks 31 and 26 on Aug. 20, 21, 22. Blocks 32 and 27 on Aug. 27, 28, 29. Blocks 33 and 28 on Sept. 3, 4, 6.

Residents are requested to get assignments and prepare to move as scheduled. Water, lights, garbage service, and electricity will be cut off in the respective blocks on the night set for closing each block.

Diet kitchen now in Block 28 will be moved to Block 34 after September 12.

Arrangements for all residents who are now using storage space in blocks to be closed may be made with Property Control to store their belongings in WRA warehouses in the center.

You are urged not to request WRA to do any improvements, alterations or maintenance work on new quarters assigned. All such requests must be denied.

Electrical and plumbing fixtures belong to the government must not, under any circumstances, be removed from present living quarters.

WRA will provide trucks and labor to transfer all household goods and equipment of each family from the present location to the new location. Each family has the responsibility of packing and organizing its household goods so that it may be moved quickly and safely.

The schedule above provides the dates on which you are to get your assignments for your new residence location. After that date, each family has several days in which to prepare to move.

Each block manager has the duty and responsibility of carefully interpreting and informing the residents of his block as to the instructions to be carried out in this announcement.

Throughout the remaining blocks of the center, all apartments now being used as clubs, recreation halls, storage, workshops, sewing rooms, and for other purposes must be released in the immediate future in order to provide living quarters for center residents. WRA will provide storage space in warehouses on request of residents.

Ralph P. Merritt,  
Project Director.

### NEW RULING ASKS TEN DAY'S NOTICE

Since changes in departure plans have caused a great deal of difficulty in both the Relocation Division and the Finance Section, a decision has been made that at least ten days notice will be required in all cases of change in destination or in party compositions, according to an announcement from the Relocation office.

"Should this advance notice not be adequate to permit adjustment of grants on transportation and should the number of changes continue to increase, it may be necessary to prohibit all changes after a departure notice has been prepared," the statement said.

The ten day notice regulation will become effective from Aug. 6 and all applicants for resettlement are asked to make up their minds before filing departure notices.

### Minidoka Co-op To Dissolve In October

HUNT, Ida.—Minidoka Co-Op will be liquidated by October 31, according to plans announced by the Co-Op board of directors, the Minidoka Irrigator announced.

Liquidation of the Co-op began on Aug. 1 and will continue to October 31.

Also beginning last Wednesday, no further purchase refund stamps are being issued but induced ten per cent in price. This policy was adopted to avoid further which might prolong liquidation procedures.

In a teletype to the center, WRA Director Dillon S. Myer granted free rental use of all space to the coop during the 90 day liquidation period.

### Minidoka Irrigator Stops Publication

The Minidoka Irrigator, the official printed newspaper of the Minidoka Relocation center at Hunt, Ida., suspended its publication July 28.

Also suspended its publication on that date was the Heart Mt. Sentinel, the official newspaper for the Heart Mountain, Wyo. Relocation Center.

The first center newspaper to close was the Rohwer Outpost, newspaper of the Rohwer, Ark., Relocation Center.

Manzanar Free Press is now the only printed newspaper of the WRA relocation centers.

Other papers still in operation but in mimeograph form are the Newell Star of the Tule Lake, Calif., center; the Gila News-Courier of the Gila Rivers Relocation Center in Ariz., the Poston Chronicle, of the Poston, Ariz., Relocation Center; the Granada Pioneer, of the Granada, Colo., Relocation Center; and the Topaz Times of the Central Utah Project.

## Nakaji, Ishikawa Assist In Student Relocation

Two representatives of the National Japanese American Relocation Council, arrived here to aid center students on the Student Volunteer Summer Project program.

Chiz Nakaji and Sam Ishikawa will assist students in finding colleges of their liking, help them

receive financial aid and give other assistance.

They will aid students to attend college, also help them in entering high schools, trade schools and nursing schools.

They will be here until Aug. 20, at 7-1-2. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

The NJASRC is a private and independent agency. It receives no funds from the US government. It was organized under the leadership of the American Friends Service Committee, May 29, 1942 in Chicago. Its members include, G. Sproul, U. of California; L. Wilbur, Stanford; C. A. Dykstra, of UCLA; officers of college associations, representatives of leading Protestant churches, Jews, Catholic, Quakers, and the YMCA and YWCA.

During the past 3 years the NJASRC has aided over 3000 Nisei students to enter more than 550 institutions of higher learning.

Among the 550 institutions who have accepted Nisei during the past 3 years are roughly one quarter of the accredited colleges and universities of the country, 100 schools of nursing, many small colleges and trade schools.

This year a total of \$188,972 in scholarship aid to 750 students have been channeled through the council of which \$140,361 came from 13 national church boards, \$34,971 from the World Student Service Fund and \$13,640 from other sources.

Chiz Nakaji was a former librarian at Manzanar and attended Syracuse University, N. Y. She also worked at the university library.

Sam Ishikawa is a former Santa Anita who is enrolled in the graduate school in Harvard U. in Mass. He was the former director of the Philadelphia Hostel.

### Legal Residents Now Eligible For Entrance In State University

"All evacuees who were legal residents of the State of California before evacuation and who expect to return to the state now that the exclusion order has been rescinded may enter the University of California as residents of the state and will not be required to pay non-residents tuition fees," John W. Lawton, Oakland district relocation officer announced.

He added, however, that any evacuees who has taken steps to establish themselves as residents of a state other than California would be required to pay the non-residents tuition fee.

In the case of minors returning to California to enter the university without their parents, it is necessary that the parents submit to the university authorities, an affidavit stating that the parents expect to return to California as soon as housing can be arranged, in order that the student may be admitted as a California resident.

### HOLD ALOHA BALL FOR YOUNGER SET

With the appropriate theme, the "Aloha Ball," the Community Activities Section and the Community Activities Cooperative Association (CACA) will jointly sponsor a dance for all the younger set of the center, tonight at 8 p.m., at the Community Auditorium.

Music will be furnished by the Manzanar Swing Band and through records.

There will be no charge for admission and a gala evening is promised for all.

This will probably be the last big dance sponsored by the Community Activities Section.

The affair will be sports so there will be no need to dress up.

"Don't forget, grab a date and rush down to the auditorium tonight for an evening of real dancing."

### Reifsnider Counsels

Bishop C. S. Reifsnider, who has recently visited Rohwer, Poston, Rivers, an dTopaz Centers, will be available for general counseling this evening, 6 to 8 p.m., at the Manzanar Christian church without appointment.

He will also be available all day Monday by appointment and interested residents are asked to contact him for appointments.

Earlier this year, Bishop Reifsnider toured the Atlantic, Middle-Western, and Pacific Coast states studying conditions and sentiments in various localities.

### Attend Conference

Kazuko Kadota and Mabel Ito are now representing Manzanar at the Disciples of Christ Youth Conference at Lake Sequoia, which began July 30 and will continue until tomorrow, August 5, the Manzanar Christian Church, announced.

The representatives have gone on two fully paid scholarships offered by the Department of Religious Education of the Disciples Church through its Executive Secretary George Oliver Taylor.

Members of the Summer Conference Committee, which chose Manzanar, included the Rev. Yukiichi Naito, Marvis Keyser and Tatsuo Miyake.

### Breig Visits Center From Santa Cruz

Frances Breig, physical education instructor in the Santa Cruz High School, has been on the project for the past two weeks assisting the Vacation Church School as a volunteer worker, according to an announcement from the Christian Church.

### UNIVERSITY SEEKS JAPANESE TUTORS

The University of Minnesota will be hiring people able to teach Japanese in its language school, and will send a senior instructor to Manzanar to interview potential candidates if there are sufficient people available here.

Interested residents are asked to contact Thelma Kellervig at the Relocation Office, Building 1-4-2 immediately.